

🕷 Smithsonian

NMAAHC READING RESOURCES

Created for 3rd - 12th grade students and educators, the book selections are curated to provide enrichment about African American history and culture based on the permanent and temporary exhibitions within the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC).

L4 CULTURE GALLERIES: CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

NMAAHC READING RESOURCES CULTURE GALLERIES

CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

The exhibition introduces visitors to the broad concept of African American and African diaspora culture and five ways through which that culture is expressed.

The outer ring focuses on African American culture, while the inner ring displays examples of culture from other parts of the African Diaspora. The five forms of expression presented in Cultural Expression are Style: Image and Identity; Foodways; Culture and Cuisine; Artistry: Craftsmanship and Creativity; Language: The Power of the Word; and Movement: Gesture and Social Dance.



CULTURE GALLERIES

CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

SOJOURNERS THIRD TO FIFTH GRADE

The Boy who Harnessed the Wind

William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer Fiction

One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia Miranda Paul Nonfiction

Me and Momma and Big John

Mara Rockliff Fiction

Hair Love

Matthew A. Cherry Fiction

Don't Touch My Hair!

Sharee Miller Fiction

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut

Derrick Barnes Fiction

Fancy Party Gowns: The Story of Fashion Designer Ann Cole Lowe

Deborah Blumenthal Fiction

Dream Builder: The Story of Architect Philip Freelon

Kelly Starling Lyons Nonfiction

One Last Word: Wisdom from the Harlem Renaissance Nikki Grimes Poetry

Brick by Brick

Charles R. Smith Jr. Poetry

NAVIGATORS SIXTH TO EIGHTH GRADE

The Royal Kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhay: Life in Medieval Africa Miranda Paul Nonfiction

Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky Kwame Mbalia Fiction

Zora!: The Life of Zora Neale Hurston

Dennis Brindell Fradin and Judith Bloom Fradin Nonfiction

African American Artists & Writers

Joanne Randolph Nonfiction

Who was Maya Angelou?

Ellen Labrecque Nonfiction

Dance (African-American Arts)

Angela Shelf Medearis and Michael Medearis Nonfiction

Cooking (African-American Arts)

Angela Shelf Medearis and Michael Medearis Nonfiction

The Poet X

Elizabeth Acevedo Fiction

CULTURE GALLERIES

CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

INNOVATORS

Unbowed: A Memoir

Wangari Maathai Nonfiction

Haiti on My Mind: Stories by Haitian-American Teens Edited by Dana K. Vincent

Nonfiction

With the Fire on High

Elizabeth Acevedo Fiction

The 100 Best African American Poems Edited by Nikki Giovanni Poetry

Slaves to Fashion: Black Dandyism and the Styling of Black Diasporic Identity Monica L. Miller Nonfiction

Something to Prove: A Biography of Ann Lowe America's Forgotten Designer Julia Faye Smith Nonfiction

Black Built: History and Architecture in the Black Community

Paul Wellington Nonfiction

Afrofuturism: The World of Black Sci-Fi and Fantasy Culture Ytasha L. Womack Nonfiction

EDUCATORS

THIRD TO TWELVE

Afro-Latin American Studies: An

Introduction Edited by by Alejandro de la Fuente and George Reid Andrews Nonfiction

Silencing the Past: Power & the Production of History Michel Rolph Trouillot Nonfiction

The Cooking Gene: A Journey Through African American Culinary History in the Old South Michael W. Twitty Nonfiction

Stylin': African-American Expressive Culture, from Its Beginnings to the Zoot Suit

Shane White and Graham White Nonfiction

Hair Story: Untangling the Roots of Black Hair in America Ayana Byrd and Lori Tharps

Nonfiction

Hitting a Straight Lick with a Crooked Stick: Stories from the Harlem Renaissance Zora Neale Hurston Fiction

The New Negro: An Interpretation Alain Leroy Locke Nonfiction







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